

March 24, 2026

The meeting of the McCook County Commission was called to order in their Meeting Room by Chairman Steve Gordon.

Members present: Chuck Mehlbrech, Marc Dick, Tom Heumiller, and Charles Liesinger.

Chairman Gordon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Gordon called for approval of the agenda. Motion Liesinger to approve the agenda as posted. Second Mehlbrech.

Motion carried.

The minutes from the March 9th & March 10th meetings were sent to Board members for review prior to publication. Motion Mehlbrech to approve these minutes for publication. Second Liesinger. Motion carried.

Public comments: none.

Commissioner Reports: Comm Liesinger: individual asked about getting a junkyard concern in Union Twp mess cleaned up. Auditor Sherman asked the Board if they want to leave the 30-minute parking signs in place as the Turner County trial has ended. Hwy Supt Raap noted that he'd follow the Board's directive. Consensus is to leave the signs in place. Auditor Sherman informed the Board that a township supervisor has inquired about using the County website to post meeting notices and minutes. Sherman did check with the website vendor, Factor360, for input. Each township requires its own set up, each would need a dedicated page, and restricted user access. Advised against giving broad page creation or document library access. Comm Heumiller asked if the townships still had to publish meeting notices in a newspaper. Yes. Following discussion, it was decided to not allow townships use of the county website.

Conflict of Interest: none noted.

Travis Raap, Hwy Supt, presented a utility permit request for a tiling project on 432nd Ave, noting that County policy requires boring under a road, not allow excavating through a road, and the contractor has requested digging into the right-of-way to shorten the boring distance. Derek Evans, Gridline Field Tile, was present, and told the Board that he hasn't bored a road in 9 years and works in numerous counties. This is the only county where he can't trench. Evans asked the Board to compromise by reducing the length of boring the road by moving into right-of-way. Hwy Supt Raap noted that rural water companies aren't allowed to excavate through roads. Raap recommended not allowing trenching into the ditch/right-of-way to avoid setting precedent. Following discussion, motion Dick to approve the Utility Permit for boring 18" drain tile, 432nd Ave, 3/8-mile N of 267th St & 5/8-mile S of 266th St. Second Liesinger. Motion carried. Evans noted that he will also be meeting with the drainage administrator re a drainage permit.

Hwy Supt Raap presented 4 Electric Utility Permits for Geronimo Power (3)/Grant Solar (1) to the Board for approval. #1 Scope of Project: E/W boring under 447th Ave for Medium Voltage collection system for Grant Solar Project. Location of Installation: 447th Ave approx. 3730' N of SD42. Method of Installation: directional boring. #2 Scope of Project: E/W boring under 446th Ave for a Medium Voltage collection system for Grant Solar Project. Location of Installation: 446th Ave approx. 290' N of SD42. Method of Installation: directional boring. #3 Scope of Project: E/W boring under 446th Ave for a Medium Voltage collection system for Grant Solar Project. Location of Installation: 446th Ave approx. 1690' N of SD42. Method of Installation: directional boring. #4 Scope of Project: 115KV Transmission Line crossing 447th Ave. Method of Installation: overhead wires supported by steel poles on concrete piers. Motion Liesinger to approve the utility permits. Second Mehlbrech. Motion carried.

Hwy Supt Raap informed the Board that the county was one of fifteen counties that participated in a bid letting for Southeast SD County Striping Project, Project No MC 26-05, held on March 11, 2026, in Minnehaha County. Bids received: Sir Lines A Lot, \$70,907 and Vogel Traffic Services, 84,907.64. Motion Liesinger to accept the bid submitted by Sir Lines A Lot for the striping project. Second Dick. Motion carried.

Hwy Supt Raap presented a final draft of the Road Use & Repair Agreement between Grant Solar LLC and McCook County to the Board for signature. The agreement will be signed by the Chairman, Hwy Supt, and States Attorney. Motion Liesinger to authorize

Chairman Gordon to sign the agreement. Second Mehlbrech. Motion carried. Current projects include culvert work in Brookfield Twp, patching, and cutting trees in ditches.

Tasia Dass, HR Consultant, and Mark Norris, Sheriff, met with the Commission to discuss SRO Agreement. Auditor Sherman has received agreement signature pages Canistota School, McCook Central School, and Bridgewater/Emery School. There was no response from Montrose School, but their March 9th meeting minutes noted that they would not continue participation in the SRO Agreement for January-June 2026. Motion Liesinger to authorize Chair Gordon to sign the County's signature page of the SRO Agreement. Second Dick. Motion carried. The Auditor's Office will submit bills to the school districts.

Motion Dick to convene as Drainage Commission. Second Mehlbrech. Motion carried.

Steve Dick, Drainage Administrator, informed the Board that downstream landowners have signed routine maintenance permits as required and the contractor sign-off is completed regarding drainage permit application D25-044. The chairman signature is needed to finalize this drainage permit application for Bernard Stockwell. Motion Liesinger to authorize Chairman Gordon to sign the application. Second Dick. Motion carried. Drainage Admin Dick noted that the attorney for the Eitreim family has requested meeting minutes, which will be provided. A question arose about whether "ditch inspection every five years" was noted in the minutes. Auditor Sherman stated, yes, that the inspection was noted as a condition of permit approval in the March 9th meeting minutes. Discussion was held on proposed cleanup items in the Drainage Ordinance.

Motion Heumiller to convene as Planning Commission. Second Liesinger. Motion carried.

Anna Flogstad, Zoning Administrator, presented a plat for approval. Following review of the plat review form, motion Liesinger to approve the plat. Second Dick. Motion carried.

Be It Resolved by the County Planning Commission of McCook County, South Dakota, that the plat of Lot A of Matthies Addition in the Southeast Quarter (SE ¼) of Section 10, Township 101 North, Range 53 West of the 5TH P. M., McCook County, South Dakota, be and the same is hereby approved by the Board of Commissioners of the County of McCook, South Dakota, is hereby recommended.

Adopted this 24th day of March 2026.

Chairman, County Planning Commission
McCook County, South Dakota

The Board reconvened as Board of County Commissioners.

Anna Flogstad, Dir of Equalization, and the Board discussed a date for holding equalization hearings. County Board of Equalization begins April 14th and ends on May 5th. Appeals are typically allotted 15 minutes. Flogstad proposed to do non-appeal items (clerical errors, Ag status, elderly tax freezes) on April 14th and hear appeals on April 21st.

Auditor Sherman informed the Board that the annual weed notice regarding responsibility to control noxious weeds and pests will be published in The Special the 1st week of April.

Auditor Sherman presented documentation to the Board from Bridgewater City regarding Renewal of Authorization under the General Permit for a Yard Waste Compost Facility. No commission action needed.

Motion Liesinger, second Heumiller, and carried, to pay claims: GENERAL FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll by Department:
3/14/2026: Commissioners 2293.00; Auditor 7510.43; Treasurer 6492.52; States Attorney 3916.90; Custodian 1533.00; Dir of Equalization 4879.55; Register of Deeds 3882.93; Veterans Service Officer 256.00; Sheriff 16428.35; Contract Law 9842.53; Care of Poor 322.07; Welfare 318.78; Extension Secretary 1633.80; Drainage 322.50; Planning & Zoning 767.87. Transamerica Employee Benefits, March contribution-GAP coverage, 4252.76; AAA Collections, lien collection fee, 50.00; Canistota Senior Center, 2026 appropriation, 500.00; InfoTech Solutions, Managed IT services, 3633.50; Jack's Uniforms, uniforms, 1892.44; Carol Lauer, charger for laptop, 21.11; Morgan Law PLLC, court appointed attorney for Ricky Ferguson, 634.40, Charlee Yellow Earrings, 638.60; Motorola Solutions, wave PTX mobile apps, 143.00; Paul's Towing, 2 patrol vehicles hauled to Harrisburg and back to Salem, 750.00;

ROCS Transit, 2026 appropriation, 2000.00; SDAAO, membership dues, 150.00, USPAP course registration, 375.00; Stacey Sieverding, travel expenses-Regional Meeting, 63.00.

COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 3/14/2026: Hwy Dept 28379.78; cell phone reimbursement, 250.00. Pay Increase: Larry Hand, 6 month increase, \$25.11/hour. Transamerica Employee Benefits, March contribution-GAP coverage, 1645.75; AMG, Avera Occupational, drug test, 37.70; IMEG, microsurfacing design, 1500.00; Interstate Power Systems, repair field generator, 1800.00; The Lodge at Deadwood, lodging, 315.00; SD Supplemental Retirement, special pay participation fee, 45.00; Verizon Wireless, cell phone service, 123.20; Xcel Energy, utilities, 725.57.

911 EMERGENCY REPORTING SYSTEM FUND: Mitchell Regional 911, 911 services (95% of surcharge collections), 8033.77; Motorola Solutions, wave PTX mobile app, 26.00; Sioux Valley Energy, radio tower utilities 81.53.

EMERGENCY & DISASTER SERVICES FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 3/14/2026: EDS Director 1650.73. Transamerica Employee Benefits, March contribution-GAP coverage, 96.51.

24/7 SOBRIETY FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 3/14/2026: Sheriff Secretary/Dispatcher 239.76.

PAYROLL CONTRIBUTIONS – ALL FUNDS: 3/14/2026: Dir of IRS, county share of FICA 5346.80, Medicare 1250.49; SD Retirement System, county share of retirement contribution, 5232.28; Wellmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield of SD, county share of health insurance contribution, 27299.42.

TOTAL CLAIMS: \$23,538.82

The meeting adjourned subject to call.

Dated this 24th day of March 2026.

Steve Gordon _____
Chairman, McCook County Commission

ATTEST:

Geralyn Sherman _____
Auditor, McCook County